

Analysis of Resilience in Virtual Networks

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Agenda

- Motivation
- Network virtualization model
- Failure types
- Comparison of resilience at different layers
 - Resource consumption
 - Service level resilience adaptability
 - Network setup and operation complexity
- Conclusion
- Q&A

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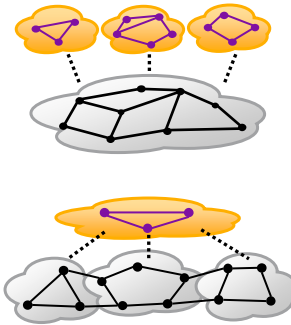
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Motivation

Resilience in Virtual Networks:

- Shared substrate resources
 - + Enhanced efficiency
 - Increased effect of physical failures: many networks and services affected simultaneously
- Abstraction of the network
 - + Increased flexibility and overall view possibility
 - More complex resilience design
- Different layers face different opportunities and challenges



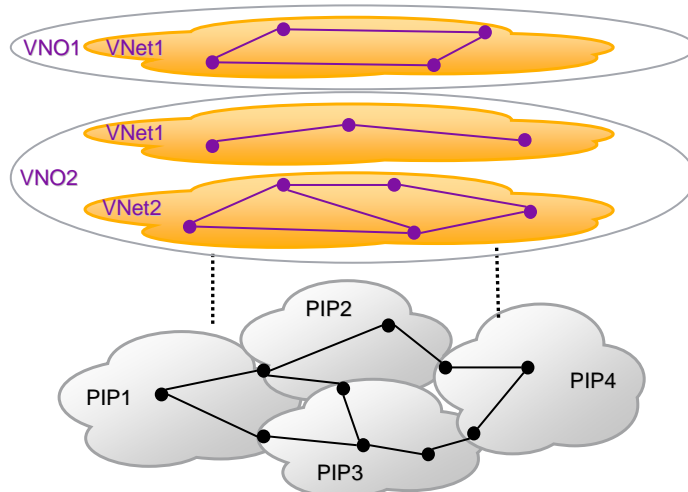
Comparative analysis → Optimal resilience design under different circumstances

Network virtualization model

VNO: Virtual Network Operator

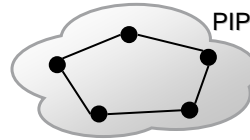
VNet: Virtual Network

PIP: Physical Infrastructure Provider



Network virtualization model (cont'd)

Physical Infrastructure Provider (PIP):



- Owns the physical infrastructure
- Monitoring of the physical and virtual resources
 - Physical Resources (PR): Total access and control
 - Virtual Resources (VR): Knowledge of the usage and physical location
- Network utilization optimization: optimal VR allocation for all virtual networks (VNets)
- Migration of VRs from one PR to another one
 - Overall optimization for all the VNets residing on the physical network
 - Shutting down a part of the network (e.g. energy efficiency, maintenance purposes)

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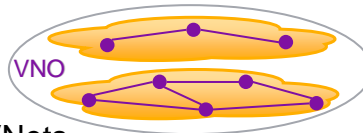
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Network virtualization model (cont'd)

Virtual Network Operator (VNO):



- Owns and operates one or several VNets
- VNet: virtual links and nodes
 - Requirements: node - CPU, memory, location, technology, ...
link - bandwidth, delay, disjointness, ...
 - Mapping to the network of one or more PIPs
- VNet request:
 - Advertisement of available virtual resources: PIPs → VNO
→ Overall view of the available resources!
 - Negotiation with various PIPs for establishing an optimal VNet
- Monitoring:
 - Buffer overflow, packet delay, ...

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Failure types

1) Physical link/node failure:

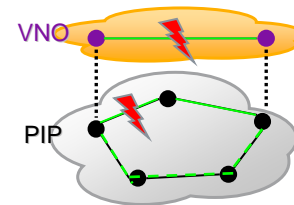
- Transport link failure
- Router/switch/server failure

PIP → First one to detect the failure!

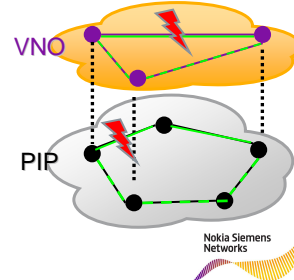
Resilience options:

- 1) Only PIP is responsible for resilience or VNO has no backup resource PIP
- 2) Only VNO reacts due to the contract VNO
- 3) Both can react VNO + PIP
 - PIP: first one to detect the failure
 - Detected failure and recovery action taken signaled to VNO (also for Case2)
 - Failure escalation with triggering
 - Hold-off timer

PIP Resilience:



VNO Resilience:



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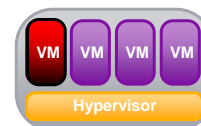
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Failure types (cont'd)

2) Virtual Machine (VM) failure:

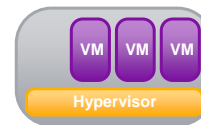
2.1) Internal failure VNO

- VNO → The owner and controller of the VMs
- PIP cannot (and shouldn't) react



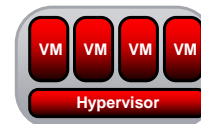
2.2) Complete failure VNO + PIP

- No difference for VNO compared to physical failure



2.3) Hypervisor failure PIP

- VNO cannot do anything



3) Control plane failure:

- Topology Computation Engine
 - Network Management System
- } Data plane is still working
→ Need to be extremely fast
not seen


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Comparison of resilience at different layers

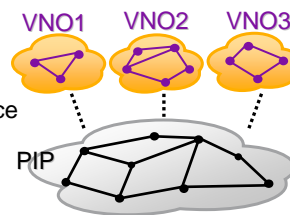
- Failure types and cases to be considered:
 - Where both VNO and PIP are able to react 
 - Where fast reaction is required
- Physical node/link failures and complete VM failures

- Comparison metrics of having resilience at different layers:
 - Resource consumption
 - Service level resilience adaptability
 - Network setup and operation complexity

Comparison of resilience at different layers: Resource Consumption

PIP:

- Complete view of its network with...
 - its physical resources
 - Available virtual resources on a physical resource
 - Already leased resources and their properties
 - virtual resources residing on its network
 - Their location
 - Their properties



→ Optimizing the resource utilization regarding all VNETs in the network

- Migration of resources if necessary
- Backup resource pools and shared protection

Comparison of resilience at different layers: Resource Consumption (cont'd)

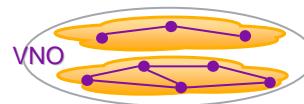
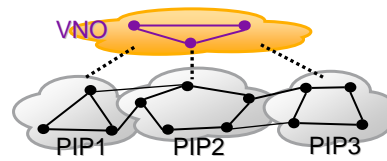
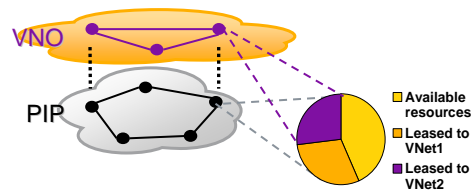
VNO:

- Only limited view on the resources of a PIP
- No knowledge about the whole network structure of the PIP

However...

- Overall view over the available resources of all the PIPs
- Optimal combination of available resources from several PIPs for both primary and backup resources

→ Sharing of the backup resources at the VNO level



Comparison of resilience at different layers: Service level resilience adaptability

PIP:

Limited: Should not influence service handling

→ No optimization of resilience mechanisms possible depending on the actual services

VNO:

Comprehensive knowledge about the services and traffic characteristics in its VNets

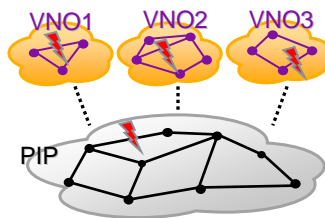
→ Optimization of the choice of backup resources and recovery actions accordingly

→ Adaptation of the resilience level depending on the running services

Comparison of resilience at different layers: Network setup and operation complexity

PIP:

- Close to the origin for the considered failures
 - More knowledge about the failure
 - Fast reaction ability
- Multiple VNets share the same physical resource
 - If the problem is fixed at the PIP layer, it is solved for all the affected VNets



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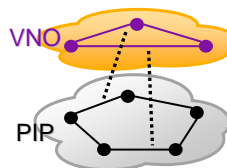
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Comparison of resilience at different layers: Network setup and operation complexity (cont'd)

VNO:

- No direct knowledge about the physical failures
 - Need for signaling and coordination
- Due to one physical failure many VNets might be affected
 - Need for separate reaction by each VNO
- Virtual resources for services should obey physical disjointness
 - Need for disjointness information request



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Conclusion

- Resource consumption
 - PIP: Complete knowledge of its network
Optimization over all residing VNets
 - VNO: Overall view of the available resources of all PIPs
- Service level resilience adaptability
 - VNO: Optimization regarding the services
- Network setup and operation complexity
 - PIP: Simplicity regarding signaling and scalability
- Future work
 - Quantitative analysis of the results: Delay, resource consumption, cost, complexity
 - Design of appropriate resilience mechanisms

Q&A

Thank you for your attention!

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